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# The Observer

November 19, 1993

Volume 63

Issue 5

Saint Joseph's College, Rensselaer, Indiana

## Editor's

### News Notes



- Wednesday, Nov. 18: MSU Talent Show was held at 8pm in the Ballroom.

- Thursday, Nov. 19: Alcohol Peer Education Group will meet at 7pm in Science 104.

- Friday, Nov. 20: Residence Halls close for Thanksgiving Break at 6pm.

- Friday, Nov. 20-Sunday, Nov. 29: HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING BREAK!

- Wednesday, Dec. 2: Campus Ministry pizza and prayer in the Gaspar Center at 7:30 pm.

- Thursday, Dec. 3: Covenant House Vigil at 4:30pm in the Chapel. Alcohol Peer Education Group meeting at 7pm in Science 104.

- Saturday, Dec. 5: Christmas with the Columbian Players.

- Tuesday, Dec. 8: Feast of the Immaculate Conception (masses at 4:30pm and 9pm). 100th anniversary of the Grotto. (Special service after 9pm mass, followed by hot chocolate social.)

## "OUT OF CLASS" GOES ON THE AIR

by Anne LaCure

Every semester, students from Saint Joseph's College can look forward to the Communications Department to debut a new episode of their "Out of Class" sitcom. "Out of Class" is a program written and produced by students from Saint Joseph's College that appears on the Puma Channel (Channel 6) every semester.

The writers of this coming episode, Derek Dabrowiak and Chris Greski, would like to keep the plot a mystery. However, Greski, who is also the producer, did say that "the story deals with a group of students whose dabbling with the black art gets a bit out of hand; a theatre director whose life takes a turn for



Students practice the opening scene of "Blue Light Special."

the worse, rendering him a lonely, drunken whino; and something about a girl, an iguana and rolling around in baked beans with a curling iron." The actors, Will Shannon, Theresa Richer, Maura Giles, Derek

Dabrowiak, Courtney Coe, Ebbie Metzinger, Jeannette Catuara, Roger Burns, Sara Reasoner, Tamara Bumpers, and Dr. David Chattin have been working hard shooting the sitcom since Sunday, November 15th. The finished product will be aired in early

December before finals. "Blue Light Special," the tentative title for this semester's "Out of Class," is directed by Fred Berger. The Production team consists of Chris Greski, Derek Dabrowiak, Kathy Jarowicz, Katie Haendiges, and Kristin Dariosis.

The cast and crew confessed that although the hours were long, they did enjoy working on the sitcom, and that there would be some very "revealing" topics on the show.

The production company would like to encourage everyone to watch and enjoy this up-coming treat, and invite anyone who is interested, to try-out for the one next semester.

## GETTING CARRIED AWAY.....

by Breain Ma'Ayteh

At least, that's what happened to several bicycles belonging to girls in Halas Hall.

It all started about a month ago, when Halas built a brand new deck. It was great, right? The girls even got a new bike rack to go with it. However, there was one small problem: the bikes that were meant for this nice new rack had mysteriously disappeared.

I can remember the night this mishap occurred very clearly, because I live in Halas second, and my own bicycle was nowhere to be found. It was around 10:30, and my (then) roommate came rushing into our room. "Your bike is gone!" She cried, and we ran downstairs and outside. Sure enough, my cute little blue mountain bike was not in the spot where I had left it. But that empty new rack was!

I recently had a talk with Ernest Watson, of Student Affairs, about the whole situation. He explained that there had been a "miscommunication" between Student Affairs and Physical Planning, and that Physical Planning had originally thought that the bikes would not have to be moved in order for the deck and bike rack to be built. When they realized the opposite, they moved the bikes into various locations, cutting locks if necessary. (Unfortunately for my bike, it was necessary.)

For the girls who are still missing bikes, they are instructed to see Watson in the Student Affairs office. He will then take action to compensate them for their losses.

I commented to Watson that I was grateful for his speedy solution to the problem. "It's our responsibility," he replied. "We didn't take care of our business, and we have to rectify that. I would hope anyone else would do the same."



# Are We Deceiving Ourselves?

by: William Shannon

Before you read this article, please turn to page four of the Puma Guide and read the document entitled "Saint Joseph's College Mission Statement."

Done? Not very long, is it?

Well, the reason for that is that it doesn't have to be long. It is supposed to be the creed, the manifesto of what we here at SJC hold as the central principles of our existence as an entity. Those sorts of documents are supposed to be short and to the point.

What does this statement say about us as a college? It says that we are dedicated to forming an intellectual and faith community that promotes personal growth and also the development of a strong community that realizes the essential interdependence of all human beings.

Why does this document exist? It is supposed to give the members of the SJC community the "ground rules" for being a member of this community. It is, to use the Latin, a *sine qua non*, a statement that gives the definition to a member of the SJC community. If you are "one of us," you agree with these ideas. If you don't agree with these ideas, this is obviously not the right place for you, and you need to seek out a community (college or otherwise) that fits your beliefs and expectations.

That having been said, what must we do with this mission statement? Is it to be paid lip service and then forgotten when it is convenient to do so? Is it a "toothless" document, ready to be trampled on by those with their own aspirations, aspirations that fall outside the parameters set in the mission statement?

The answer is a resounding "NO!" We must use this document, the mission statement, as the guiding principle for college policy and interaction at all levels. It must be the fountainhead from which flows all actions and words. As our creed, it must be followed, and followed by everyone here. Students, faculty, administration, staff and the local Precious Blood community are all called to follow the dictates of this document. It defines us. To do otherwise would be contradictory and ultimately self-destructive.

What, then, are we to do to ensure that this document is the center of communal life here? We all (and this means EVERYONE) must constantly evaluate our actions and policies according to this document.

Are we committed "to give witness, in a special way, in all aspects of campus life, academically and existentially, to the Christian Humanist views of justice and love and its commitment to human solidarity and interdependence?"

Do we promise "to add emphasis to educate the whole student- intellectually, physically, socially and spiritually-an abiding concern to provide personalized and individualized care?"

We should all keep a copy of the Saint Joseph's College Mission Statement somewhere handy for quick reference. Before we act, we should take a look at the statement and judge whether our decisions and actions are consistent with its precepts.

If they are not, we are deceiving ourselves and each other. No one likes to be lied to. This demands a conscious effort on the parts of every member of the SJC community.

Will we accept?

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I wanted to express some concerns that I have about the programming I heard recently on WPUM, and also the future direction of this essential piece of the college milieu.

When I tuned in on [Thursday, November 12] later in the evening, I heard programming that I found most offensive. There were several people on the air at once, causing an unpleasant cacophony of sounds. There was no apparent format to the broadcast, making it hard to follow. The person who seemed to be "hosting" the program was rude and insulting to callers, talking in a condescending manner in an attempt to be humorous. It was, needless to say, a disturbing experience for me, a fairly regular listener to WPUM.

I am also responsible for the "computer" end of putting WPUM out over the Internet. If we intend to do this, the station must have more control over its personnel than I heard over the air. People will judge Saint Joseph's College on many things, and the radio station is undoubtedly one of them.

The broadcast that I heard showed a blatant disregard for authority and convention. If this is the type of programming that WPUM will produce, should we be on the Internet at all? It is this type of program that will hold up this attempt at advancement and development of the radio program.

David DeLauro.

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## PRAIRIE RESTORATION PROJECT

by Amber Chamberlin

Here at Saint Joseph's College, the environmental systems class is currently taking action on restoring a native Indiana prairie land that is located behind Lake Banet. One of the main duties of the class is for the students to arrange committees and manage this project with the advising of Dr. Brodman, Professor. Richenson, and Professor. Olson.

On November 4, 1998, the class had a meeting discussing what the committees planned to accomplish this semester, concerning the project. The committees consisted of: plant identity--identifying all the plants that occupy the area before the restoration and determine which plants should occupy a prairie land; seed--find and compare the costs of seed; DNR--Department of Natural Resources--find out the regulations and any advice about restoring a prairie; equipment/plant removal--rent or borrow equipment to remove plants (example: tiller, chain saw, clippers...etc.); tree--measure current area and determine which trees should be removed to increase area by 25%; fire department--explore the possibility of burning tree debris; administration--present our project to the administration; public relation--notifying the public about the project; documentation--to make accurate recordings of the actions that take place.

At the end of the presentations, we made our goal for the semester and some objectives. The goal is "We commit to restoring approximately 400 meters squared of second growth forest to original Indiana tall-grass prairie. We will regenerate and reintroduce native prairie flora in order to promote wildlife, aesthetics, research, and education." Our objectives are to document the density of species prior to the start of work; remove nonnative and non-prairie plants; prepare soil (tilling, spread seed); plant native prairie seeds.

On November 11, 1998 we begun our physical work on clearing the prairie and widening the area by 25%. We were very successful and quick. Our goal for the future is to have an acre of native prairie land, that will hopefully lure native prairie animals to re-inhabit the land. This is just the beginning. This class will be offered in the fall of 2000, but there is now an independent study class on managing the restoration project. This is one project that will bring back the past and hopefully will help us to understand the future.

## Jasper Parents and Schools Crack-Down on Drug Use

by Sarah Stipher

On November 9, 1998, parents and students were invited to the Van Rensselaer Elementary School to attend a discussion on drugs in the schools. The title of the discussion was: "Celebrate: Keeping our boys and girls off drugs." Speakers included teachers and judges.

Teacher Shannon Mahe headed the first discussion. She and three other teachers were sent to Florida to training sessions. These sessions included two intense training days. The teachers were given information about violence in school, how to deal with gangs in schools, and information on what schools can do to combat this growing problem.

Mahe said the purpose of these training days was to put together a preventative program in the early years. One of these goals is to prevent violence in the high schools. Each month, the elementary students are taught a skill. These skills range from friendship skills to what to do when a child is being teased by other children.

The main speaker of the evening was Judge Robert Monford. There were three themes that he discussed: the sixty-percent solution, responsibility, and ownership of the problem.

The sixty percent solution simply means that parents, teachers, and other community members need to take some action to solve the problem. Judge Monford stated that action is needed in the home, family, and school settings. He stressed that there should be small solutions made. Responsibility is taking community action to help solve the problem. Ownership was described as, "Before you can solve a problem, you must admit it is your problem."

Partners for a Drug Free Jasper was also discussed that evening. This is a group that does not use tax dollars to help children. The three main objectives of the group are education, prevention, and enforcement. Another goal is to get the parents involved. The group wants to give the tools to parents to implement the three objectives.

There was a good number of people that attended the function and most agreed that it was an enlightening and inspirational experience.

### RETRACTION:

The photo of Mike Potts in last week's paper was taken by Charles Martin, not Ann O'Donnell.

We apologize if this ruined Charles' Pulitzer Prize nomination.

## Senate Update

by Mike Nichols

During the Senate meeting on Nov. 2, the senate amended the Student Association constitution in order to provide representation for the residents of Schwietermann. Petitions of candidacy for senator, governor, and student association officer positions will be available soon. They will be due before Thanksgiving break and elections will be held before Christmas break.

President Nichols spoke concerning his attendance of the recent Board of Trustees meeting. He delivered a letter from his office describing difficulties and concerns from working with the Vice-president of Student Affairs, Bill Manis. The student life committee of the Board has taken the matter under consideration. Bill Manis spoke about possible future construction on campus and answered questions. As a final note, the Justin/Halas Christmas dance is currently being planned.

## TEAM Doesn't Just Preach, They Teach

by Lynn Rainey

When Notre Dame visited SJC for the first time, it was to inform the freshmen student body on drinking smart. With that example in mind, Mike Singleton formed a new club on campus, together educating alcohol management or TEAM.

This group is run completely by students along with a little guidance from it's sponsor, Mike Singleton. The long term goals of TEAM are simple: don't just preach about saying "No," encourage smart drinking. How to accomplish this seems unclear, but they are developing ideas such as skits that can help students relate to real pressures. They hope to attend high schools and middle schools spreading the words of safe partying. Plus, they will display their talent for next year's freshmen seminar classes. This is just the beginning of achieving their biggest goal for the club, to eventually spread out to a wide audience like college campuses around the area.

If you want to get involved in this alcohol peer group contact Mike Singleton or attend the next meeting. It will be held on Thursday night at seven in the science building, room 104. So, it is not too late to join. "This is a student run group and everyone is invited to come to our next meeting," reminds the club sponsor Mike Singleton.



## Do the crime...pay the fine

—By Zak Pala—

SJC's new alcohol policy has received a tremendous amount of criticism from people in the SJC community. Students especially have complained that the new rules pertaining to alcohol are much too harsh.

The main aspect of the policy that has caught the most heat has been the automatic \$40.00 fine to cover the eight hours of community service imposed for a first offense. Critics feel that the fine is much too steep, and constantly question what the \$5.00 per hour goes toward.

According to Vice President for Student Affairs Bill Manis, the fine money is given to the account of whatever department the community service is done under. "If the service work is done under the supervision of the janitorial department, then that department is given the \$5.00 per hour paid by the student. The money is then used to purchase supplies needed for janitorial to perform their duties," said Mr. Manis.

Mr. Manis also believes that the \$5.00 an hour is low in comparison with similar fines at other colleges, and especially in certain counties. There are other schools that charge \$15.00 an hour for community service, and Jasper County charges \$35.00 per hour.

Because of the heavy criticism of the new alcohol policy, a rumor has circulated that the community service fines are going to be abolished. The chances of that happening this year do not exist, because it would not be just to those students who have already been fined.

"Doing away with the community service in the middle of the year would not work because there are a number of students who still have hours to complete. Plus, it would not be fair to those students who have had these fines imposed on them," stated Mr. Manis.

# A Fresh Outlook

One student reflects on the ups and downs of Freshman year

—By Breain Ma'Ayeh—

Well, it's about that time. Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks are rapidly approaching, registration for winter term has come and gone, and finals aren't too far away. The semester is drawing to a close, and so are my first few months of my freshman year of college.

I'll admit it, I did not adjust as easily as I thought I would. Coming from Chicago, IL (Yeah! South Side!) to Rensselaer, IN, a town that consists of about ten people, was hard. I missed my family and friends from back home. I missed high school. I missed downtown, and the CTA, and the familiar sound of gun shots that can be heard from across the street of my apartment. (OK, maybe not across the street, but you get the idea.) I had a low tolerance for Saint Joe, a high phone bill, and a lot of time on my hands. The only person I talked to for a long time was my roommate. She was a very good friend of mine, and we had both come from Chicago together.

Things changed as time went on. I learned to like my classes, and I got a job in town. I felt like I had made

some friends on my floor. However, I was also losing the one I had brought with me. That clouded my judgement of my life here for a while, and I was determined on leaving at the end of 2nd semester and going to school in the city. I refused to get too involved in any activities. I wrote for the paper because I did it in high school, and I joined MSU and Drama because I needed to fulfill scholarship requirements.

I didn't want to get too close to anything, because I knew it would just hurt when I left.

Then, out of the blue one day, I looked around my dorm room and thought, You know what? I really do like this place after all. I like the people I've gotten to know, and I love the peacefulness on this campus. I love being able to walk around at night and not worry about someone jumping out from the shadows to attack me. I like playing pool at the HUB, and shopping at Walmart

at 3:00 in the morning (remember that, Maura?). I learned a lot about myself that day. I just plain liked St. Joe.

Of course, not everything worked out the way I would've wanted it to. My roommate and I couldn't reconcile our differences, and she moved out on me last week. It hurt to watch her pack up her things and leave; we don't say more than two

words to each other now. I guess sometimes life just works out like that.

I've decided to work harder to fit in here, and to not just sit in the shadows and watch things get

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"I've decided to work harder to fit in here, and to not just sit in the shadows and watch things get done."  
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done. I didn't do that in high school, so I won't allow it to happen here. For 2nd semester, I'm going to reach out to people a little bit more; to get more involved; to try to change the things I don't like. Because the biggest insight I've gained is that your experience at Saint Joe will be exactly what you make it. I want to make it special.

## Freshman Class Profile

Enrolled: 252

Men: 121

Women: 125

Percent From Indiana: 63%

Percent Catholic: 59%

Percent participating in NCAA Division II

Athletics: 48%

States Represented:

Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, Oregon, Virginia, Wisconsin

Percent Graduating in:

Top 10% of class: 17%

Top 25% of class: 39%

Top 50% of class: 72%

Multicultural Enrollment: 9%

African American: 5%

Asian: less than 1%

Hispanic: 3%

Five most popular majors: Elementary Education, Biology-Chemistry, Mass Communications, Psychology, Computer Science



# Wattage increase means changes for WPUM

—by Melinda Burdan—

WPUM is about to go through some major changes. In addition to the DJ changes, the radio station itself is going to be increased in wattage and even changed to a new frequency. The possibility of these changes becoming necessary began in 1988, but the changes were put off as long as could be possible.

When WPUM went on the air in 1977, there were many educational, noncommercial, 10 watt radio stations. Many radio stations, including WPUM, lasted that way for many years until the 1988 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) passed a ruling. The ruling stated that radio stations must increase their power to at least 100 watts or they could be subject to "bumping". Bumping means that if another radio station with more watts wants to come in and take over a certain frequency, they can. The smaller radio station would no longer be protected by the FCC.

SJC is now feeling the effect of that ruling. A radio station that is larger than WPUM is being

activated in Crown Point and wants the 90.5 frequency that SJC now occupies. This may sound harsh, but it could be a positive thing for Puma Rock.

Because WPUM has to change their frequency, which involves building a new tower anyway, they have also been permitted by school officials to increase the wattage to 1000 watts. This means many things to the people at SJC. First, once they upgrade to 1000 watts, they can never be bumped again. Second, with all these changes, WPUM will also be able to expand their listening area. The consultants and engineers that SJC hired predict that Puma Rock will be heard possibly all the way to the outskirts of Lafayette.

"With this potential audience, we have to be a lot more professional on the air," Professor Fred Berger said. This has also brought about some of the changes about which the radio station employees have been dissatisfied. Because the student DJ's must be more professional on the air, the faculty in the communications department must do a better job of educating the DJ's.

Before all of this can happen however, many preliminary steps must be taken. The communications department must submit a stack of paperwork to the FCC in Washington, D.C. After this, the FCC must act on it. After the FCC is finished, they will offer the school a construction permit which will last 18 months. In this time period, they will purchase a new transmitter that will cost about \$10,000 and a new antenna that will cost about another \$5,000. In the end, the school will have invested approximately \$20,000 in this project. In addition to the cost of the new equipment, Dr. Chattin also authorized the hiring of a full-time Mass communications professor and a full-time faculty supervisor for the radio station. The person responsible for this task is Sally Nesslerode.

The size of this project has resulted in putting it off. Now that it can no longer be put off, the work has begun. The time frame is not set in stone, but Berger would like to have this project complete by the fall of 1999.

## Columbian Players kick off year with production of "Arsenic and Old Lace"

—by Heather Hagan—

The Columbian Players recently kicked off their year with their annual fall play performed November 6, 7 and 8. The choice for this year's production was Joseph Kesserling's play "Arsenic and Old Lace."

The plot of this comic play centers around a rather warped family living in Brooklyn, New York in the year 1941. The family consists of two elderly sisters, their twenty-something nephew, Mortimer, and Mortimer's demented brother, Jonathon. Mortimer learns a little more than he needs to know about his family when he discovers that his aunts have very innocently been poisoning old men and burying them in the basement. When Jonathon comes along and wants to use their basement to bury someone he has killed, a comic farce ensues.

In the roles of the two aunts were Theresa Richer and Sara Reasoner. Mortimer was portrayed by Ryan Myszak and Will Shannon rounded out the main cast as

Jonathon. The acting by these lead characters, as well as that of the supporting cast, was quite good. Especially noteworthy was the hilarious physical comedy in the scenes between Will Shannon and Stephen Giles, playing the intoxicated but well-meaning Dr. Einstein. Jeremy Holman was also very amusing as Mortimer's other brother who thinks he is Teddy Roosevelt.

Along with the acting, the production of the play was also first-rate. The set was well-designed and looked realistic (although after the

approximately two and a half hour running time of the play, the wallpaper was somewhat headache inducing!) The costumes were also well-done and were appropriate for the time period. Lighting and sound quality were also very good.

Overall, the play was an entertaining way to spend a few hours. Timing the play to occur during Parents Weekend was a good publicity move and allowed numerous parents, as well as students, to enjoy the hard work of the SJC students involved in this effort.



STEPHEN GILES PORTRAYS the drunken Dr. Einstein in the Columbian Players' rendition of "Arsenic and Old Lace." Photo by Charles Martin

## Director Profile

—by Polly Rainey & Lisa Phillips—

"It was a little stressful at times, but my cast and crew were great. I had faith in my ability and theirs," said senior Kathy Jarowicz, director of "Arsenic and Old Lace."

Jarowicz first became involved with the Columbian Players four years ago when she began working on the technical crew. She has worked on the sets of every play since then.

"I became involved in stage crew in high school because I didn't make the play and I've stuck with that ever since," said Jarowicz. She hopes to someday direct the musicals "The Wizard of Oz" and "Into the Woods."

As to theater at SJC, Jarowicz said "Basically we need more room, a better facility and better equipment. [But] I think SJC has a lot of advantages. You have more opportunities here that you might not have at a bigger school."

Jarowicz, who is also involved in Habitat for Humanity, Student Volunteer Corp, "Out of Class," and WPUM, will be directing another one act play in the upcoming Christmas show, presented by the Columbian Players, and interning at the Lafayette Civic Theater.



## Games Ahead

### November 23

Men's Basketball at Eastern Michigan University, TBA  
Cross Country Nationals at Lawrence, KS

### November 28

1:00 PM Women's Basketball versus University Of Missouri-St. Louis  
3:00 PM Men's Basketball versus University of Missouri-St. Louis

### November 30

5:30 PM Women's Basketball versus Quincy University  
7:30PM Men's Basketball versus Quincy University

### December 3

5:45 PM Women's basketball at Bellarmine College  
8:00 PM Men's Basketball at Bellarmine College

### December 5

Men's Basketball at Kentucky Wesleyan College, TBA  
1:00 PM Women's Basketball at Kentucky Wesleyan University.

### December 12

1:00 PM Women's Basketball versus Hillsdale College

**Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!**

*Special thanks to Jamie Riberto for her excellent Football coverage! Goodluck in the future!*



Photo by Charles Martin

The SJC football team in one of their last times together before the end of the season.

# An Impressive Victory

By Jamie Riberto

On a windy day, the seniors as well as the rest of the Saint Joseph's College football team finished their season with a game to remember. The game kept all the fans on the edge of their seats as the Pumas defeated Wayne State 41-39 last Saturday in four overtimes to end their season 7-4. They won all four of their games at home, which is a vast contrast from last year's record.

The game started out with the SJC team behind. They were losing 23-9 at halftime, but refused to give up. After halftime there was a change in the air. They managed to come back and were able to tie the game up 23-23 to carry the game into overtime. The game went into four overtimes and the Pumas were down 39-33 in the fourth overtime as sophomore, Desmond Fletcher ran thirteen yards for a touchdown. Larry Smith was able to add a two point conversion for the Pumas to give them the win.

Larry Smith had 172 yards rushing on 35 carries and three touchdowns. Sophomore, Jason Baldwin added 101 yards rushing on 17 carries. Smith was given the game ball, and he ended his career at Saint Joseph's College with 2,309 career rushing yards which places him third on the all-time list for Saint Joseph's College. About his senior year Smith had this to say, "it was a great senior season for me. It was an honor to play with the group of people I played with."

The Puma defense was led by Elbert Henderson's six tackles while David Ortiz and Todd

Roberts each had an interception to bring the season total to 27 interceptions. The Pumas ended their season ranked number one in interceptions for division one, two, and three.

Ryan Gandurski summed up the season the best, "I personally feel that there wouldn't be a better way to end up my four years at SJC then with the type of win we had Saturday. The game summed up how the season went for all of us. At first we were down, then started the comeback, and finally we were able to achieve something special that will be remembered here at SJC for a long time. I personally would like to thank my parents for all the support they have given me through out my career. I would especially like to thank my mom for always coming to my games, and enjoying every special moment with me." Congratulations to the football team at an end of an awesome season.

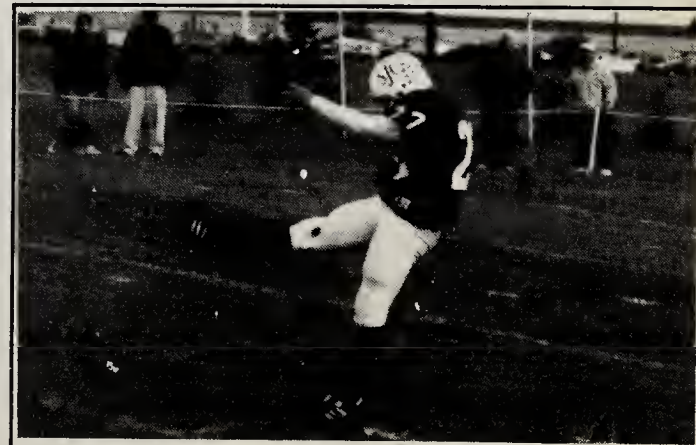


Photo by Charles Martin

Kicker Erich Hitzeman in action at home a few weekends ago against all time rival Valparaiso.



# The Season Starts

By Marcy Janjecic

## Swish! Basketball season has once again descended upon Saint Joseph's College.

The men's basketball team got off to a great start last Tuesday, November 10, with a 121-69 win over Mexico. The women began their season last weekend with the Saginaw Valley State Classic at Northwood University in Michigan.

The 1998-99 women's basketball team includes senior Ana Gallegos; juniors Monica Claridge, Mandy Witherby, Dawn Harvey, Angie Hupfer, Tamara Bumpers, Jill Masters, and Teri Forsyth; sophomores Marilyn Tebbe, Annie Niemiec, and Laura Mullikin; and freshman Karin Morrisoe, Kori Rentas, Christian Marshall, and Lindsay Dunlap. The women are looking forward to a strong and competitive season. "The team is looking pretty good right now. We've got great leadership on the team. We're all determined to have a great season," commented Ana Gallegos.

Under the direction and guidance of Head Coach Dave Balza and Assistant Coach Ken Carrillo, the men's basketball team is also ready for a strong and competitive season. The 1998-99 men's squad includes seniors AJ vanBelkum and Goldie Ashford; juniors Matt Metzger, Greg

Taylor, Luis Soltero, Luther Buie, Jason Hallenbeck, Mick Mancuso, and Gabe Saldana; sophomores Andy Anasinski, Cullen Grasty, Brandon Yates, and Rory

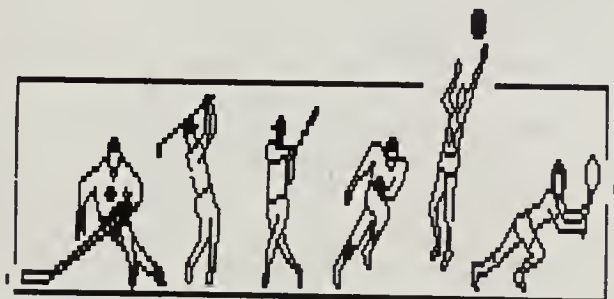
Johnson; and freshman Rocco Pascente, Brent Mason, and Jason Smith.

According to AJ vanBelkum, "Our team is looking very good this year. We are really starting to come together as a team and are already playing well. This year it will be a lot of fun to watch us, since we are playing an up tempo type of game."

The men's basketball team's next game is

November 24 against Goshen College. In addition, both teams will play at home on Saturday, November 28, against University of Missouri-St Louis over Thanksgiving break. Come watch the teams in action this year.

## Finishing up or Getting Started

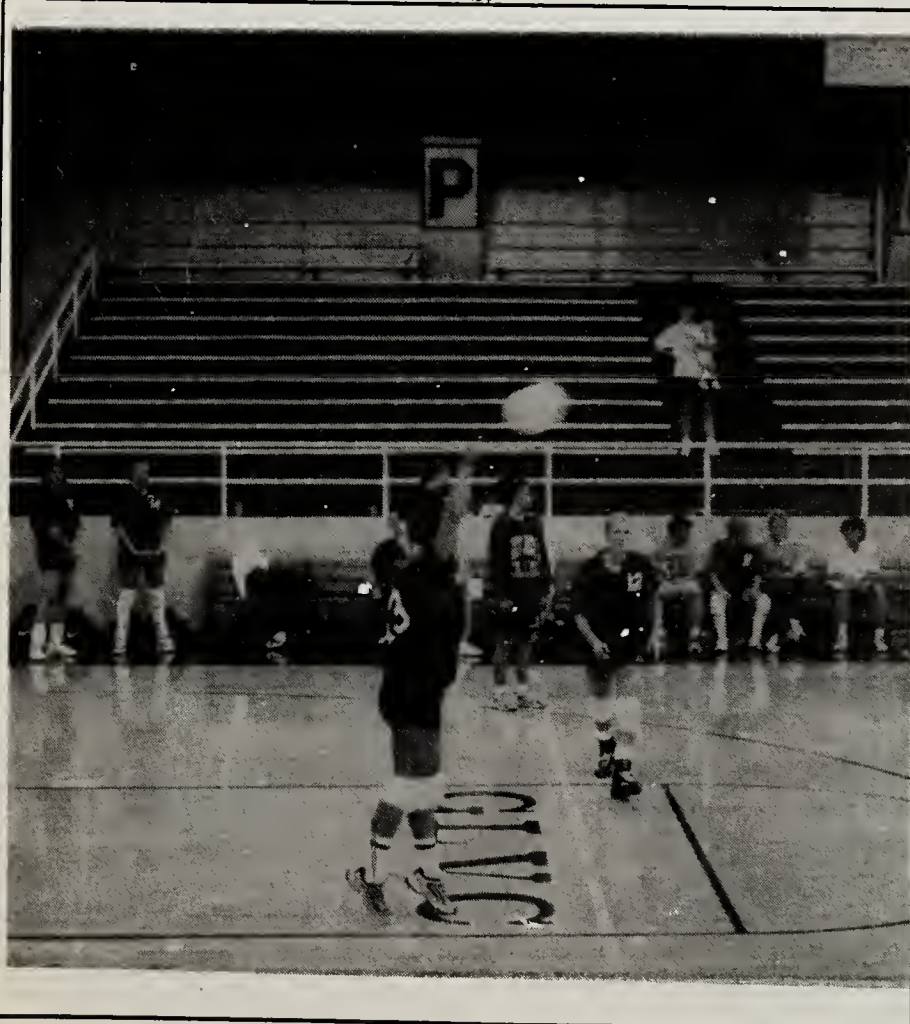


The SJC women's soccer team, which finished 16-2-2, had three women named to the All-Great Lakes Valley Conference Team. Junior forward Mary Reid made the first team while senior goalie Mary Zurek and junior midfielder Julie Recker made the second team.

The SJC Volleyball team finished the GLVC with a 5-11 mark. The volleyball team lost in the first round of the GLVC tournament to Northern Kentucky University in three games (15-5, 15-4, and 15-6).

The men's basketball team defeated team Mexico in an exhibition game 121-69.

The men's cross country finished 18th place with 464 points at the NCAA Division II Great Lakes Regional Championship.



The SJC Volleyball team finished the season with a record of 11-19.

Photo by Charles Martin



**"TRUE STORY"***By Stephen V. Giles*

"Happy birthday!" we cried, as Annie opened her gift to find a gold watch. "Oh, thank you," she said, as she put it around her wrist. It was Thanksgiving and my absent-minded aunt was celebrating her birthday. She kept herself so busy, that she seemed to forget the simplest of things. Most of the time she was running around on the edge of a nervous breakdown. She was a neurotic by definition, all she did was worry about things that didn't happen in the past, instead of worrying about something that won't happen in the future...like normal people. I guess most of the family is like that anyway.

My family is Irish Catholic, which means many things. Number one, there was barely any room in the house because of the pride of family heritage and the devotion to procreation. Number two, everyone drinks like a fish...an alcoholic fish. Number three, we can all play an instrument, or sing a song, or tell a story...regardless if anyone is listening. And number four, there is a fight about every 25 minutes.

My mother agreed to do the sweet potatoes, the mashed potatoes, the au gratin potatoes, the baked potatoes, the fried potatoes, the potato salad, the potato soup, the potato...did I mention that we are Irish?

My aunt Mary took care of the fruit and vegetables (the potato not being a vegetable in my family, rather, it's in a fifth food group all by itself). Annie did the turkey. The men went into the garage to drink, not knowing how to do anything but screw the lids off olive jars. I sat down with my sketch pad and watched as my mother and my aunts prepared the meal. My mother, who was obviously the best cook, ignored my aunts mistakes and just kept going. My aunt Mary was obsessed with separating the dill pickles and the sweet pickles. "We can't just let them get all mixed up! Suppose someone reaches for a sweet pickle and tastes dill?! What next? Maybe we should just throw everything into a blender!" My aunt Mary went on mumbling. No one spoke to her for hours...they didn't want to interrupt her.

I watched my aunt Annie, who was the shortest, stick her arms all the way up in the turkey. It was funny watching her try to stuff a turkey. My little sister cried, "Help! Annie's being eating alive!" My mother said to my sister, "No she's not, don't worry about it." I told my sister, "That's not the turkey's mouth." "What is it?" She asked. I grinned and began to go into great detail on how a turkey gets from the farm to the table...my sister didn't eat that Thanksgiving.

Later, when all the food was prepared, my aunt asked my mother a strange question, "Bridget, does this turkey look weird to you? Are you sure it's a turkey?" No one could believe that my aunt Annie cooked the turkey and she wasn't even sure if it was a turkey or not. I peeked in the oven and saw that the turkey was a turkey, but it was upside down. It did look weird, but it was the juiciest turkey the family ever had!

As the evening went on, we had a wonderful time celebrating both Thanksgiving and my aunt's birthday. My uncle asked her if she knew what time it was. She didn't know. Her watch was missing. Everyone scattered looking for Annie's new gold watch while my sisters and I sat at the table. I kept eating, and after a few bites of my aunt's stuffing...I found her wrist watch.

THE MORAL: Never wear jewelry when stuffing an upside down turkey.

**Turkey Tale**

Turkey, turkey, on the farm.  
Turkey, turkey, did him harm.  
Turkey, turkey, killed him dead.  
Turkey, turkey, has no head.  
Turkey, turkey, has no feet.  
Turkey, turkey, turkey meat.

*Sarah Martin***What I am Thankful For**

Thank you for time.  
Time that I can spend with my family.  
Time that I can spend with my friends.  
Time that I can spend with you.  
Thank you for the hours.  
The hours spent talking.  
The hours spent listening.  
The hours spent understanding.  
Thank you for the minute.  
Every minute of every day.  
Every time I am with you, I thank God for that Time.

*Ann Zurowski***The Autumn Ball**

There is a ball outside!  
The leaves blow side to side  
Red, orange, yellow, and brown  
They blow around and around.  
They curtsy and they sway  
As the wind cries hurry,  
And the skeleton trees  
Dance in the breeze  
For there is a ball outside  
And we have been cordially invited.  
So don't delay  
For it is coming time  
For the close of the day.

*Amy Black***Mom's Cooking**

Just sitting in the dorm  
thinking of the warm  
and wonderful things  
Mom use to make.

Hot out of the oven  
and packed full of her lovin'  
were the things  
That she used to make.

Oh, how I hated waiting  
just anticipating  
the things that were coming  
very soon

All of my hunger  
and my wonder  
were only sufficed  
by licking the spoon.

Bread, cakes, and pies  
my, oh my,  
were all on the menu  
that she could make.

Oh, to be home again  
been so long I can't remember when  
the last time I had the things  
she could bake.

*Ann O'Donnell***NOTICE**

THE OBSERVER IS NOW  
ACCEPTING POEMS AND  
SHORT STORIES TO BE  
PRINTED ON THE BACK  
PAGE. NO PSUDONYMS  
WILL BE ACCEPTED  
EXCEPT IN CASES OF  
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.